

Protection and Safety of the General Public

Hugo L. Black United States Courthouse

COVID-19 Pandemic

The judges and staff of this court are taking the COVID-19 pandemic seriously and are continuing to monitor the situation as conditions evolve. We are following the guidance issued by the CDC and, when appropriate, other agencies. Please rest assured that we are committed to the safety and well-being of not only our staff but all visitors to the courthouse.

1. Because social distancing is difficult to maintain in the common areas of the courthouse, we require that everyone in those spaces wear a mask or face covering that covers their nose and mouth. The presiding judge in each courtroom will decide when masks or face coverings will be required.
2. To the extent possible, everyone visiting the courthouse is required to observe social distancing of at least 6 feet.
3. Elevators are marked for social distancing.
4. The court's HVAC system is equipped with UVGI (Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation). The CDC has recommended the use of UVGI as an effective technology to minimize the spread of airborne microorganisms including the COVID-19 virus.
5. Hand sanitizer stations are available throughout the building.
6. Several times throughout the day, our cleaning staff will clean and disinfect any utilized public areas or devices in the courthouse such as bathrooms and door handles.
8. Spectators in the courtroom must observe social distancing and unless told differently by a member of the court staff, must wear a mask or face covering. Court security officers and/or court staff will be on hand to direct spectators to the appropriate seating areas. Family members who reside in the same home will be permitted to disregard the social distancing requirement.